MODELS FOR EXPANDING EMPLOYMENT-BASED HEALTH COVERAGE

Location/Program	Description	Enrollment	Eligibility	Financing
Arizona Healthcare Group (HCG)	Prepaid medical coverage from three HMOs makes health insurance more accessible to small businesses and self-employed individuals	11,622 persons (workers and family members) from 3,623 small business groups (9/00)	Businesses with two to 50 employees or self- employed individuals; if firm has one to five employees, must have 100% participation of eligible employees (work 32+ hours/week); if firm has six or more employees, must have at least 80%participation of eligible employees	\$700,000 in start-up costs provided by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; health plans charged \$4/month; employers and employees pay full cost of coverage; state contributes \$8 million/year to reinsurance pool and to reimburse health plans for losses
lowa Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP)	Subsidizes enrollment in employer-sponsored private health insurance plans for Medicaideligible individuals and their families	8,000 people, including 5,500 Medicaid-eligible individuals and 2,500 non-Medicaid-eligible family members (8/00)	Be eligible for Medicaid or live in the household of a Medicaid-eligible family member; have access to employer-sponsored coverage; meet cost-effective criteria	State and federal Medicaid matching funds
Massachusetts	Premium Assistance Program offers subsidies to help low-wage workers pay their share of premiums	Approximately 12,000 covered lives subsidized (9/00)	Family income up to 200% of FPL; self-employed or work for small firm OR have children and work for any size firm; employer pays at least half of premium for work-based health insurance	Combination of state-only funds, state Medicaid funds, federal Medicaid matching funds, and CHIP funds
MassHealth Family Assistance Program (FAP)	Insurance Partnership offers subsidies to low-wage self-employed individuals and small businesses to help pay premiums for low-wage workers	1,620 employers are subsidized for premiums of 4,600 individuals (workers and family members) (9/00)	Business employs 50 or fewer full-time (30+ hours/week) workers; offers comprehensive health insurance and pays at least half of the premium	State funds through summer 2000; may become eligible for federal matching funds under a Section 1115 waiver or Title XXI
New Mexico New Mexico Health Insurance Alliance (NMHIA)	Program to make health insurance more accessible to small businesses, self-employed individuals, and individuals who lose group health coverage	8,500 covered lives in 1,800 small businesses and 1,900 individual accounts (11/00)	Employers are eligible if two to 50 eligible (working 20+ hours/week) employees and at least half enroll, or self-employed and purchasing insurance for self and at least one family member; do not offer group coverage other than an Alliance plan. Individuals are eligible if they have lost group coverage and have exhausted COBRA and state continuation plan in prior two months	Employers and/or employees/individuals pay full premium; reinsurance funded by premiums and assessment on all health insurance companies in the state; reimburses participating health plans for losses
Muskegon County, MI Access Health	Health coverage product for the working uninsured targeted to small and medium-size businesses (up to 150 eligible employees)	155 small to medium-size businesses, covering 500 employees and dependents (8/00)	Businesses with up to 150 eligible employees (not seasonal, temporary or otherwise insured); notproviding insurance for prior 12 months; median wage of eligible employees of \$10 per hour or less	Three-way shared buy-in among employer (30%), employee (30%), and community match (40%), comprising federal DSH funds and local government, community and foundation funds
San Diego, CA FOCUS (Financially Obtainable Coverage for Uninsured San Diegans)—Sharp Health Plan	Premium assistance program for small employers (less than 50 employees) and low-to moderate-income employees (up to roughly 300% of FPL)	1,766 employees and 232 businesses (8/00)	Small businesses not providing coverage for prior 12 months; full-time employees with incomes up to 300% of FPL previously uninsured; all eligible dependents must also enroll	\$1.2 million grant from Alliance Healthcare Foundation; \$400,000 grant from California Endowment; fixed employer contributions; sliding-fee scale for employees

Source(s): Drawn entirely from: Silow-Carroll, S., Waldman, E. & Meyer, J. (2001, February). Expanding Employment-Based Health Coverage: Lessons from Six State and Local Programs. New York: The Commonwealth Fund. [On-Line]. Available HTTP: http://www.cmwf.org/programs/insurance/silow-carroll_6profiles_445.pdf.